(*b*) whether or his office staff is given permanent monthly hill allowance; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (*b*) is in the negative, the reason for the same?

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) Does not call for an answer.

Statement, by caste, of appointments made by the Account Officer.

410. **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Muvattupuzha cum Todupuzha*): In regard to the appointments made by the present Account Officer since his assuming charge of his office till the 10th Kanni 1104, will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of Brahmins, Nayars, Catholics, Jacobites, Mar Thoma Christians, Protestants, Ezhavas, Mahomedans, Vellalas and members of other castes so appointed?

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to the answer to question No. 96 furnished on 6th December 1927. (*Vide* page 343 of Volume XII of the Council Proceedings.) There is no change in the list of substantive appointments. Two Nayars and one Nadar have to be added to the list of acting men.

New Building in the General Hospital.

411. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*): With reference to the new building constructed in the General Hospital, will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) how long is it since the building has been completed;

(*b*) the cost at which and the purpose for which the new building has been constructed; and

(*c*) the reason why the building has not yet (7-11-1928) been opened?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) About three years.

(*b*) The actual cost up to the end of Dhanu 1104 is Rs. 1,05,849. The building was put up with the idea of providing additional accommodation for in-patients.

(*c*) The building was opened on the 4th February 1929. The delay in opening it was due to the fact that certain works connected with the building, such as pump, drainage and water-pipe systems, electric lights, etc., had to be provided before the building could be occupied; and also to the fact that some of the necessary equipment had to arrive from abroad.

Depressed classes and the grant of fee concession.

412. **MR. R. RAMAN PILLAI** (*Kottayam*): Will the Government be pleased to state;

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